

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants have carefully considered this application in connection with the Examiner's Action and respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-18 in the application. Currently, the Applicants have amended Claims 1, 8, 15 and 17 and have canceled Claims 4, 11, 16 and 18. The Applicants have neither amended, added or canceled any other claims. Accordingly, Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-15 and 17 are currently pending in the application.

I. Formal Matters and Objections

The Applicants have amended paragraph [0025] of the specification for containing inadvertent grammatical errors.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated in the Examiner's Action dated July 21, 2003, that Claims 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 16 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. While the Applicants strongly disagree that the cited references outright disclose or teach or suggests every element included within the originally filed independent Claims 1, 8, 15, and 17, to expedite the prosecution of the present application, and for no other reason, the Applicants have amended the elements from dependent Claims 4, 11, 16 and 18 into their respective

independent Claims 1, 8, 15 and 17. Accordingly, the Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw each and every 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 rejection with respect to the claims at issue.

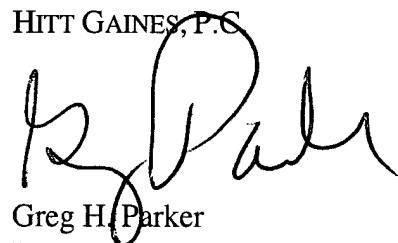
III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-15 and 17.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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